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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 10/540,392

Applicant

: Beier MARKUS

Filed

: June 23, 2005

TC/A.U.

: 1639

Examiner

: Teresa D. Wessendorf

Docket No.

: 2923-714

Customer No.: 6449 Confirmation No.: 2991

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 14, 2008

Sir:

In the Office Action dated December 14, 2008, claims 18-19 and 22-23, in the above-identified U.S. patent application were rejected. Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 18-19 and 22-38 remain in this application, claims 1-17 have been canceled and claims 20 and 21 have been withdrawn.

Claims 18-19 and 22-38 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by WO 0013018, WO 0289971 or WO 0232567. The office action requests that English language translations of these documents be submitted. Applicants point out that U.S. Patent No.7,097,974 is the national stage entry of WO 0013018, U.S. appln. serial no. 10/477,282 is the national stage entry of WO 02/89971 and U.S. appln. serial no. 10/399450 is the national stage entry of WO 02/32567. Applicants contend that none of the cited references